

the objects from the second source storage area (QS2) or first all the objects from the second source storage area (QS2) and then the objects from the first source storage area (QS1) - maintaining the relevant source storage area sequence for all further sorting steps - being supplied to the diverter device (W), specifically, beginning at the latest from the third sorting step, in the sequence in which the objects were supplied to the respective source storage area (QS1, QS2) in the preceding sorting step.

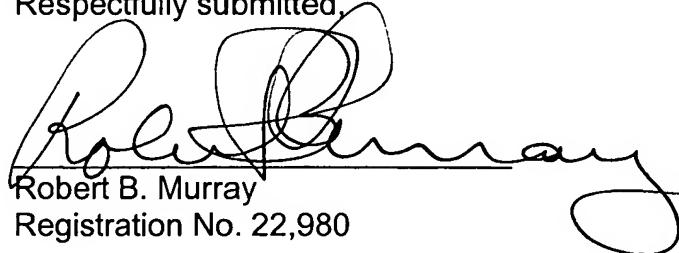
7. The sorting device as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the destination storage areas (ZS1, ZS2) and the source storage areas (QS1, QS2) are provided in conveying circuits (50i, 50a) which are connected to one another via the diverter device (W).

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 4 and 5 have been cancelled and claims 6 and 7 have been added. No new matter is added.

Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300

Respectfully submitted,



Robert B. Murray
Registration No. 22,980

AREN'T FOX KINTNER PLOTKIN & KAHN, PLLC
1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.,
Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20036-5339
Tel: (202) 857-6000
Fax: (202) 638-4810
RBM/ars